

# City Times

## NEWSLETTER

### HAPPY OCTOBER, TEAM!

Did you know October is Health Literacy Month? This is a time for organizations and individuals to promote the importance of understandable health information. Our dedicated HR Team can be reached at 580.581.3392 to further explore YOUR health benefits through the City of Lawton, or assist you with health insurance questions or concerns.

#### From the desk of the **City Manager:**



**City of Lawton Staff,**

As my [intent to retire](#) was submitted on Sept. 17, I wanted to take the opportunity to thank you each for your continued service and dedication to our community.

*It has been a privilege to work alongside you the past 34 years and witness the City reach new heights because of your incredible commitment and leadership. The work of public service is as challenging as it is honorable and you should be proud, each day, of the work you produce for a great many.*

*Moving forward, I know I will look upon my time at the City of Lawton with fondness and I will definitely keep each of you close to heart. Thank you for your support and encouragement throughout the years, and thank you for enriching our community through your service.*

**A true fan,**

**Jerry Ihler**



### Milestone Moment

*Lawton:  
'Comeback City'*



Lawton was ranked in a recent report compiling the top 100 American cities that have made major strides in reducing crime to create safer communities! Lawton came in at no. 76, showing an overall decrease of -27.10 percent in criminal activity from 2006 to 2016. The report was entitled, "Comeback Cities: Declining Crime Across the U.S." and was published in early September 2018.



**OCTOBER 2018  
CITY MANAGERS OFFICE  
580.581.3301**



CAMPAIGN SEASON

United Way of Southwest Oklahoma

Last year, your generosity touched the lives of hundreds of Southwest Oklahomans as the City of Lawton raised more than **\$32,000** for the United Way of Southwest Oklahoma.

The success of this longtime partnership benefits 18 nonprofits – in the human services areas of *Health, Income Stability, Education & Basic Needs*.

Upcoming City fundraisers for UWSWOK include:

- **PICNIC IN THE PARK** on Oct. 3, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Elmer Thomas Park
- **PD vs FD BENEFIT BASKETBALL** on Oct. 7, 2 p.m. at MHS Gymnasium
- **SLIDER LUNCH** on Oct. 15, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Lawton City Hall

United Way speakers have visited City Hall, Engineering and Water/Wastewater Divisions this season. To schedule a speaker, please contact Tiffany at ext. 301.



HAPPY, HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

October Employee Birthdays:

Russell Boone	Nestor Enriquez	Heather Skiles
Joseph Peterson	Kathleen Klingensmith	Dylan Parrish
Stephanie Wilson	Karl Veldhuizen	Essence Perry
Sir Allen	Timothy Jenkins	Bryan Wilhelms
Richard Cruz	Dennis Sloniker	Justin Carmon
Sheri Bennett	Justin Thorne	Dustin Kellogg
Thierry Schroeder	Trey Walker	Ricky Ward
Franklin Davis	Chadd Mendiola	Patrick Kilgore
Britt Hubbard	Grant Johnson	Lauren Neitzke
Melodie Mort	Mark Murphy	Timothy Pease
John Elwell	Margaret Tiddark	Marcie Sego
Jimmie Hicks	Christopher Stearns	Cory Shaw
Kristy Dement	Dennis Stevens	Bussey Garland
Michael Lyle Glaze	William Torres	Kaitlin Nunley
Vernal Hairston	Michael Spencer II	Cody Hansen
Ralph Maassen	James Carroll	James Smith
Gerald Nooner	Charles Passah Jr.	Linda Lake
James Schneider	Tiffani Burk	Mark Mitchell
Jason Davis	Christopher Devine	Steven Schulte
Jimmy Powers	Matt Whittington	Ronald Dimmitt
Adam Rowland	Chance Mullins	Jason Mansel
Ticey Moreland	Robert Crews IV	Cory Shaw
Christopher Paslay	Dane Swinford	Saadia Tasso
Rex Scrudder	Gabriel Goodson	Dusty Wilkey
Alan Sweetin	Thomas Honeycutt	
Sean Fortenbaugh	Alexandrea Anderson	
Chaz Jackson	Joneil Tahmahkera	
Cameron Green	Travis Lee	
Luis Merrero	Tatjana Wenderoth	

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR  
YEARS OF SERVICE!

October Employment  
Anniversaries

FIVE YEARS

Ronald Payette, Inspection Services  
Joseph Dagostino, SSC

20+ YEARS

Jeanie Wheeler, Parks & Rec  
Christopher Hall, LPD  
Lindsay Tate, LPD  
Bunky Norwood, WWTP  
James Sanders, LFD  
Azim Mohammad, Engineering



FORGOT ALL THE GOOD STUFF?

Web admins/editors needing a refresher in lawtonok.gov pages and tools should contact Gregg Stallings at gstallings@lawtonok.gov or ext. 338.







★★★★★★★★

## **HALLOWEEN BASH 2018**

As celebrated in previous years, City Hall will be open to community youth from 2-4 p.m. on Oct. 31 for the Halloween Bash! All departments and divisions are welcome to set up a booth and distribute candy for the event!

**PLEASE SIGN UP BY OCT. 24 HERE:**

**P Drive> Halloween 2018> Halloween Bash SignUp**

This year's contest categories include:

- **BEST PUMPKIN, BEST BOOTH/GROUP, SCARIEST COSTUME, FUNNIEST COSTUME, BEST OVERALL COSTUME**

Call Travis at ext. 375 or Tiffany at ext. 301 with questions.

★★★★★★★★

## **CITY BUCKS!**

City Bucks are now available in the Human Resources Office!

City Bucks may be used for activities such as overnight camping, boating permits, fishing permits, hunting permits, sports & aquatics fees or sports league fees. Call 580.581.3392 with questions.

## **OPEN STREETS RESCHEDULED to October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

The high risk of heavy rains and thunderstorms led to the rescheduling of the Fall Open Streets event, which is co-sponsored by the City of Lawton twice a year.

This free, health-based initiative turns City streets into a temporary public park and encourages healthy lifestyles while promoting our downtown area.

Join us from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Oct. 20 on Downtown C Avenue! Special thanks to Public Works, Parks & Rec, Planning and all of the City departments that come together to make this event happen. Learn more [HERE](#).



The Lawton Police Department coordinated and participated in the Annual Cops 'N Kids Picnic on Sept. 15, which included police demos, giveaways and performances.



Friends of the Library participated in this year's Texoma Gives Drive, raising more than \$1 million for 189 area nonprofits on Sept. 13.

# **In the News**

**SEPTEMBER 2018**



The Lawton Fire Department participated in the statewide 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb on Sept. 15 in Oklahoma City to honor and pay tribute to firefighters who died saving lives in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Fifteen firefighters climbed 110 flights, with each carrying an ID badge representing one of the 343 fallen NYFD firefighters.